

# Emmanuel News



## ANNUAL MEETING Highlights

**Budget Approved:** The proposed Budget for 2020 was presented and approved

**Construction Update:** An extension will be filed with the insurance company to give us time to complete the repairs due to the August 11th hail storm. Repairs will be done by priority: windows, siding, ceiling, then carpet. Food Pantry will be a workday project.

**Food Pantry:** Food Pantry improvements include a ring doorbell, motions lights & Ultraloq door locks. We have 2 new board members, Agnes Beddes and Loretta Lopez.

### New Council Members

President	Meagan Malchow
Vice President	Jill Hoffman
Secretary	Liz White
Treasurer	Laurel Noland
Council Member	Patty McVay
Council Member	Robin McCaffree
Council Member	Dawn Sherseth
Council Member	Linda Oberg
Council Member	Ricker Olson
Council Member	Scott Green

### Retiring Council Members

The following who are going off Church Council were recognized and thanked for their service:

Brenda Emerick

### EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 26th, and lasts six weeks until Easter, which is April 12th, this year. We will be having soup suppers and a Lenten service Wednesday evenings during this time, and will be asking the women of the church to sign up to help make several kinds of soup for each week. We will have the suppers and services at my home, 6707 Bret



Lane West, Shepherd, as we have done in the past. These services have been well attended by families. There will be a sign-up sheet at church if you can help with making one of the soups. Ash Wednesday services will be held at Huntley Methodist, as in the past years, and our congregation is invited to attend that service. Then, the week between Palm Sunday and Easter, we will again have

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The Ministry Site Profile, which is the document that describes Emmanuel Lutheran Church, our community and the ministry skills we seek in a new pastor and the compensation package we can provide, has been submitted to the ELCA. We expect to receive comments back from our contact at the Montana Synod.

Congregation members may nominate possible candidates for the position of pastor. They must be on the clergy roster of the ELCA or eligible communion partner denominations. Names should be submitted to the Call Committee in writing, accompanied by as much intonation as possible, so as to aid the synod office in identifying nominees. Any names identified will be forwarded to the synod office which, in turn, will determine if the nominees are open and available for consideration.

Should you have nominations please use the attached form and return to [kristianne.b.wilson@gmail.com](mailto:kristianne.b.wilson@gmail.com)

Call Committee Chairperson  
Kristianne Wilson

## Candidate Nomination Form

*Please note that each candidate for call to a congregation of the Montana Synod must be a pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America who is in good standing of the roster of ordained ministers in his/her synod.*

I wish to nominate Pastor \_\_\_\_\_ to the call committee and ask that the committee consider him/her for the position of \_\_\_\_\_.

His/Her current address is \_\_\_\_\_ where he/she is currently serving as Pastor of \_\_\_\_\_ Lutheran Church. I believe this pastor would be an appropriate candidate to consider for call to our congregation for the following reasons \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date Submitted \_\_\_\_\_

# COMMENTARIES OF THE CHURCH MOUSE

Greetings Friends and Neighbors,

February is finally here and once again I'm running late on getting my words of wisdom typed up for the newsletter. Today is actually Groundhog Day, 2/2, and I must admit the I'm kind of giggling inside. I look out my window and see snow on the ground and snow coming down. It doesn't take a rocket scientist Groundhog to tell us if winter is going to be around for a while longer, but I guess even my cousin the groundhog needs some sort of job security, so I'll continue to play along with the Gobbler's Knob tradition. My forecast for you all is to keep that snow shovel handy for another month or two.

On the 14th we celebrate Valentine's Day, so I hope you have something special planned for that someone special in your life. It doesn't have to be anything too fancy, perhaps a card and candy, card and flowers, card and dinner. As you can tell the common theme is at least a card with some heartfelt words about how important they are to you. I hope you enjoy spending this day of romance with your significant other.

Then on the 17th we have Presidents' Day, which is a time to celebrate all presidents past and present. For me it is merely a note on my calendar, as we don't get the day off, unless you work for the government or a bank or something. Personally, there has been so much negative news coverage about politics, the president and Washington DC, that I've kind of grown sour of the whole mess. I just don't understand why all of these politicians don't spend their time and energy working on meaningful stuff, which is what we elected them to do in the first place, instead of all this nonsensical infighting. Part of me wants to lock them all in the capitol together and tell them they can't leave until they learn to work and play well with each other!

Finally, I must toot my own horn, as it is my birthday month. Yes I'm an Aquarius, which may answer all of your questions. I'm hoping to keep up with the yearly tradition of hitting the ski slopes on my birthday. I've been waiting and

watching the weather to see when would be a good time to go. Now it looks like February is going to bring some much needed snow to the slopes. Maybe I'll see you out there. Keep an eye out for the "blur of fur" as you swoosh down the runs. If not, I'm sure we will meet up in the lodge around lunch time.

Well, that is enough for now. See you in Church.

Your faithful friend in residence at Emmanuel.

T. C. Mouse



## Christikon Clips

March, 2020

*Information for our Congregations*

**Bus Attendants needed for 2020** – Would you or someone you know be willing to ride with youth on their way to Christikon? Yes? Please call Kerry in the office at 406-656-1969 or email at [secretary@christikon.org](mailto:secretary@christikon.org) for details. It pays a daily rate as well!

**Don't miss out on the Early Registration Discount for youth campers: Register by March 15 and save \$25 in any youth session.** If you don't have the camp brochure mailed to you, pick one up at the church, or register online.

Christikon is an extension your congregation's ministry.

**Adults and families: Check out the special focus** for each of the family/adult weekends next summer at Christikon: work projects, faith formation, and Bible study will be woven together with worship, meal fellowship, recreation, folk dancing, and much more. Family/adult brochures will be mailed by the end of February and are available at churches in early March, or check out camping for adults and families online at [www.christikon.org](http://www.christikon.org). **It is the mission of Christikon to awaken and nurture faith in Christ— exploring God's creation and the adventure of life together.**

CHRISTIKON • 1108 24<sup>th</sup> Street West • Billings, MT  
59102 406 656-1969 • [secretary@christikon.org](mailto:secretary@christikon.org) •  
[www.christikon.org](http://www.christikon.org)

## Church Council Meeting Minutes – 1/8/2020

**Submitted by Secretary: Brenda Emerick**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm by vice president, Jill Hoffman.

**Members Present:** Liz, Linda, Laurel, Ricker, Brenda, Patty, Dawn, Scott and Jill

**Members Absent:** Meagan **Guest Present:** Abbey Emmons

Liz provided a devotion to begin the meeting.

The minutes from the December meeting were approved with one small change per Ricker. So moved by Dawn and seconded by Patty.

Laurel had previously e-mailed the December Profit & Loss Statement, as well as the YTD P&L. We were in the black for the month of December with a net income of \$7,660.72.

For 2019, we ended the year with a checking account balance of \$11,724.38.

Youth	\$ 4,587.06
Raise the Roof (Ceiling)	\$ 7,733.75
Memorial	\$12,789.62

There is also a remaining balance of \$79,377.25 from hail insurance proceeds. We received a donation of \$2,000 for the council to use at their discretion. The council has been discussing the need for a new computer for quite some time. Pastor Mark had been using his own at home. The church computer and programs are so outdated and slow, it is taking an inordinate amount of time to create the bulletins and newsletter. We also discussed not printing the Apostle's Creed, Lamb of God, etc. in the bulletins - just the hymnal page number instead. This will greatly speed up the bulletin creation process and will save ink and paper. Meagan had already received a couple of bids from Best Buy for a new computer. The council agreed to have Linda and Meagan go ahead and use some of the \$2,000 donation towards purchasing a new computer and programs. Motion made by Brenda, seconded by Scott and passed unanimously. The treasurer's report was approved with a motion from Brenda and a second from Dawn.

The Call Committee has been gathering surveys to determine the congregation's preferences and will

meet on Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup> after church to compile the results. They will present their findings and recommendations to the congregation at the Annual Meeting on January 26<sup>th</sup>.

Brenda will send e-mails to the lay pastors to obtain pulpit supply through the end of April. Scott Green suggested that we reach out to Mark Donaldson from Christikon and Patty McVay suggested Tom Schlotterback from St. John's. Brenda will try to contact these folks as well.

### Old Business:

After the discussion at the November meeting around keys and church security, Meagan requested that Ab-

bey check a key out to each council member. They have not yet been dispersed, but were requested again from Abbey.

The next topic was the budget for approval at the annual meeting. Jill presented several graphs of what our giving trend has been. The council discussed the sustainability of the 2019 giving. One idea was to bring Pledging back. This topic will be brought before the congregation for their consideration at the annual meeting. The council went through the budget line by line, and added or subtracted budgeted projections based on our goal of working at 95% of the budget. This will allow for building some reserve funds for any repairs or emergencies that may arise. We agreed to increase the insurance budget by 20% due to the likelihood of premium increases in 2020. Scott moved to increase the music budget by \$10,000 to allow for possibly adding a music director. He feels strongly that music is a huge factor in the attendance. Linda seconded the motion and it passed. With the larger music budget, the council agreed we should have a music committee. Scott and Dawn will be on it and will ask Ron and Kristanne to participate. Brenda moved to accept the budget of \$95,500 for 2020. Scott seconded the motion and it passed with one dissenter. Dawn had Brad Stortz look at the garage door. He will get us an estimate. Linda and Ricker said the motion light at the back door of the church does not work unless you leave the light on inside at the top of the stairs. Ricker thought it wouldn't take

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## Council Minutes



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much to rewire the light switch. This seems like a good idea for safety and security. Scott would like to see a new church sign for our front lawn. It was pointed out to the insurance auditor that it was also damaged in the hail. Scott will get estimates on a digital sign.

### **New Business:**

Dawn suggested that we have a new altar railing made that will fit the steps with the communion rail where it sits now. This will make it more secure for anyone providing communion and traveling up and down the steps. Scott will call Stan Swenson at Shepherd Stainless. Dawn volunteered to put together the Annual meeting packet. We discussed which officers and council members' terms were up. We need to keep the officers staggered for continuity. The nominating committee is Liz, Patty and Dawn Petty.

Abbey was in attendance to clarify the council's stance on outside groups' usage of the church. We agreed that she needs to ask what the purpose of the group is as we do not want to be affiliated with any negative groups/issues that would reflect unfairly on the church. Also, from an insurance liability perspective, we need to know what is happening in the church and on the grounds.

### **Pulpit Supply Schedule:**

January 12 – John Goodheart, LPA

February 23 - Armand Lohof, LPA

January 19 - Pastor Catherine Card

March 1 – John Goodheart, LPA

February 9 - Armand Lohof, LPA

March 8 – John Goodheart, LPA

February 16 - Pastor Catherine Card

**Counters:** 1/12 – Laurel, 1/26 - Ricker, 1/19 – Linda, 2/2 - Liz

After joining in The Lord's Prayer, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm. The next regular council meeting will be February 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.

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our Seder Dinner, the Passover Dinner, on Thursday evening, There is no charge for the dinner, we need reservations though, so we have enough seating. This event has always been well attended , not only by our members, but members of the community. So you can see, that there are numerous opportunities for worship and fellowship.

There are various resources for Bible studies available also, which are free, downloadable, to help us grow in faith and engage in ministry and action. The "Gather" magazine of the Women of the ELCA offers a mix of articles, devotions, and stories of comfort and challenge. You can find copies of "Gather" on the table in the back of the church, if you aren't already getting a subscription of it. I don't remember any other Bible studies that have impacted me more. Check it out.

Also, a reminder of the Eleventh Triennial Convention of Women of the ELCA, which will be held in Phoenix, Arizona, at the Sheraton Grand Phoenix, July 14-16,2020. These are such memorable experiences, with outstanding speakers. For more information , go to [welcatg.org](http://welcatg.org).

# CARING RELATIONSHIPS

## Prayers of the Church

Call Dawn Petty, 373-6673 with requests and updates

### Members:

Kaycee; Randy Vanberg; Ron Hovick; Nancy Byxbe; our congregation's current financial situation; Meagan Malchow; Monty Mavity; Gary Noland (Charlie Noland's brother); Warren Peterson; James Simpson's nephew, John Mark Owens; Connie Herberg's mother, Lois Sneva; Pastor Mark's brother-in-law, Glen Ray; Sandie Green's aunt, Dixie Cozzens; Kelly Mack's mother; Bob Fritz; Jacquie Schleder.

### Friends of the Congregation:

Bessie Millard; Tonya Sullivan; Bill Biehl's daughter; Richard Schüttler and Allen Habermann both are friends of Collin Wilson; Kelly Stokes (friend of Cindy Glenwood); Brittany Reinhardt (daughter of Toni and Rob McCann, the granddaughter of Judy Smelser); Ben Spotts; Lesa Rekdal; Shepherd school secretary; Rosie Neumiller .

### Community Living:

**West Park Village:** Lenora Wiest

**Minnesota State Prison System:** Rob Larson



### Local Youth Serving in the military:

Allan and Corinne Johnson report that their son Dan is stationed at the air base near Erbil, Iraq, which is one of the recently hit by Iranian missiles, but he and his fellow soldiers are all okay. Matt Grandpre (Stacy Smelser's husband) is also deployed to Iraq. Sandie Green reports that her son Taylor is home from deployment right now, for several weeks, and safe.....but it's always a worry when he is shipped back out. Jacob Wagenaar (US Navy) is stationed in San Diego on the USS Nimitz and will also be deployed this summer; Tucker Wilson is assigned to Holloman Air Force Base in New Mexico, Brooke Nebel Bohrer (US Air Force) and Brandon Bohrer (former US Marines) are stationed at Travis Air Force Base in California. Thomas Aigner US Navy Reserves is home now but looking to go on active duty. Please keep these service men and women, and their families, in your prayers. May they all return safely back home.

01 Brianne Malchow  
02 Dawn Sherseth  
03 Jill Hoffman  
08 Scott Green  
15 Destin Christman  
15 Linda Oberg



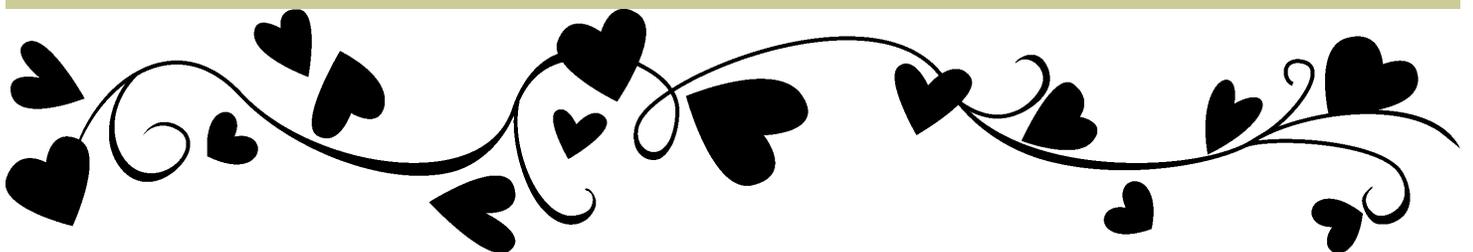
20 Collin Wilson  
23 LouAnn Grandpre  
24 Mark Halvorsen  
25 Bill Reitler  
26 Peyton Christman



# February 2020

Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

						1
2 8:45 Adult S.S. 9:30 Youth SS 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 8:45 Adult S.S. 9:30 Youth SS 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship	10	11	12 7pm Church Council	13	14 	15
16 8:45 Adult S.S. 9:30 Youth SS 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship	17  Presidents' Day	18	19	20	21	22
23 8:45 Adult S.S. 9:30 Youth SS 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship	24	25	26	27	28	29





Emmanuel Lutheran Church  
P.O. Box 66  
Shepherd, MT 59079  
Address Service Requested

## We have a mission . . .

Emmanuel Lutheran is  
a welcoming church in a rural  
community, called by God  
to joyful worship  
caring relationships and  
loving service.

## We have a vision . . .

“We will follow God’s plan for us  
to grow in faith, family,  
and community.”

[elcshepherd.org](http://elcshepherd.org) – [elcshepherd@gmail.com](mailto:elcshepherd@gmail.com)



**EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
JOYFUL † CARING † LOVING